

Minutes of the Nottingham 300th Committee Meeting
August 26, 2021 at 7 PM
Nottingham Fire Station

Present: Steve Soreff, Bill Garnett, Steve Welch, Rhoda Capron, Bob Davidson, Joe Welch, Jaye Vilchock and Rose Breslin-Dawson

The minutes of the July 22st meeting were reviewed and approved with one small spelling correction.

Bonfire – We spent a lot of time discussing the kick off event which will include the bonfire. It was suggested we call it the Grand Illumination. Steve S and Rhoda had toured the town sandpit site with Chief Vilchock. They felt it was a good location. The Chief likes that he can set up the fire early, it has a natural amphitheater and the fire can be larger than if it was at the Community Center. We also felt there was plenty of room for parking. The Chief will have to get the head of Public Works, Sean's approval, then get the Selectmen's approval. Brianne at Recycling is saving pallets for the fire. Once we get approval to have it at the sandpit, the Chief will begin moving the pallets there. Steve Soreff had come up with the idea that townspeople could gather at the school and then have a car parade following a fire engine to the sand pit as many people in town don't know where it is. We discussed the need for lighting and the Chief showed us Engine #2 which has a light tower and a generator. He offered to have it there that night for our use. Bill noted which should talk to the neighbors and let them know what is going on once the site is approved. Steve W has a PA system we can use for the opening ceremony. There was some talk about how to handle the parking. Steve W. will talk to the Police Chief. Steve W will try contacting Emma about Port a Potties, we want one handicapped and 2 regular ones. If he doesn't hear back, Rhoda will try having someone she knows reach out to her. Bill will talk to Rec about having hot chocolate. The Chief made it clear that the Fire Department will take care of collecting materials for the bonfire, building it, burning it and cleaning up the debris. The committee needs to take care of parking and other matters. We will focus on publicizing it on Earth Day and Steve S will write an article for the Forum.

Nottingham Earth Day, September 11 10am to 2 pm

Bob Davidson offered to pay the \$20 for a table at Earth Day. Bill Garnett has paid for it the past several years. Bob offered to be there in his uniform assuming it is not too hot. Bill will be there for set up at 9 am and stay until noon. Joe and Wanda will cover noon to 2 pm. Rhoda will be at the Historical Society's table and Bill will talk to Kortney to see if we can be adjacent so she can help there if necessary. Steve W is in Colebrook that day and unable to help. More shirts and hats have been ordered. They should be in in time for Earth Day. We discussed getting some of the original design with the horse as there had been some requests for them. It was decided to go ahead and get 10 medium, 10 large and 10 extra large. Rhoda will talk to Laurie. We want black ink on a light color as that seems to print best.

Program Book – No news from Tiler about the book. Steve W will ask Tiler for a copy of the fundraising letter to give to Chief Vilchock as he would like to send it out to his vendors. Rhoda offered to see if she had one to send but she didn't have it. Steve S reminded us that Betsy needs to be aware of what is going on as money comes in and she doesn't always know what it is for.

Joe said we had sales of \$471 at the Blueberry pancake breakfast and that he had talked to Betsy and the committee has raised over \$7,000 so far.

State Park picnic – Joe had talked to the Park Manager, Dave Richards, who sent the request for the use

of one of the pavilions to the State Office for approval. When Joe checked back, Dave said that things are too busy for him this time of year and that November would be a good time to talk. Joe will get in touch with him then.

Pole Banners – Joe reported that everything is submitted as a jpg file. We have to decide on font, color, and lots of details. Once it's all designed and approved it takes three weeks to get them printed. We opted to talk more about the banners at the next meeting as there didn't seem to be a rush.

Reenactment and encampment – Bob Davidson reported that the First NH Regiment has agreed to host the event. The Northern Department meeting is in November at which time they will decide what events they will sanction (?) Hosts take care of logistics of all the groups, how many people, tents, clean up etc. Groups have to have submitted their requests 6 weeks before the event along with proof of insurance. Members of the Continental Forces and the crown forces have already seen the field for the battle and come up with a tentative battle scenario. They feel there is room for 100 soldiers for each side. There could be room for horses too.

While the militia are covered by their own insurance the spectators aren't. Joe will check with the Town manager about additional insurance as parking and the battle won't be on town property. The committee has to supply firewood, water, porta potties and possibly hay.

Bob mentioned that some one from the Continental forces may come in British uniform and read the charter for Charter Day.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 23[changed to September 30] at 7:00 pm at the Fire Station. The Chief will not be in Town for that meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Sincerely submitted,

Rhoda Capron